GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:244
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2007
BILATERAL TOURISM
Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri ;Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China are going to join hands to accelerate promotion of bilateral tourism in the two countries ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the areas in which bilateral tourism is proposed to be stepped up ;

(d) the concrete measures Government has taken to encourage Indian Tourists to visit China ;

(e) whether the Government is considering to relax the procedure to make the tourists to get visas easily ;

(f) if so, details thereof ;

(g) which are the most favoured destinations in India for Indian and foreign tourists ;

(h) the number of tourists who visited India during each of the last three years, country- wise; and

(i) the total number of Indian tourists who visited China during 2004-05 and 2005-06 and vice versa ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to(i): A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 244 ASWERED ON 15.3.2007 REGARDING BILATERAL TOURISM.

(a) and (b) : India and China are already the signatories to an Agreement since 14th January 2002 for cooperation in the field of tourism. In addition, China has accorded 'Approved Destination Status' to India to enable Chinese Travel Agencies to organize the outbound travel groups of Chinese citizens to India. The year 2007 has also been declared as the'India-China Year of Friendship Through Tourism' to promote two way tourism between both the countries.

(c) and (d) : As part of the 'India China Year of Friendship Through Tourism', an Action Plan has been finalised to undertake several tourism promotional activities.

(e) and (f): The MoU between India and China, already in existence, provides for visa facilitation procedures to the potential tourists. In addition, Ministry of Home Affairs has decided to grant Long −Term Tourist Visa of a five year duration with multi entry facilities to the nationals of 18 countries.

(g) : Both foreign and Indian tourists visit diverse tourist attractions across the country.

(h) : The list of tourist arrivals country −wise for the last three years is annexed.

(i) : The total number of tourist flow between India and China in the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 is as follows :

Indians traveling to China Chinese traveling to India

2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006
3,09,411	3,56,460	4,05,091	34,100	44,897	47,000

ANNEXURE

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (h) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.244 ANSWERED ON 15.03.2007 REGARDING BILATERALTOURISM.

TOURIST ARRIVALS IN INDIA BY COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY DURING JANUARY-DECEMBER 2003, 2004 & 2005

NATIONALITY	2003	2004	2005
NORTH AMERICA			
Canada	107671	135884	157643
U.S.A	410803	526120	611165
Total	518474	662004	768808
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA			
Brazil	4528	7397	7005
Mexico	3563	4570	5398
Others	13563	16198	23183
Total	21654	28165	35586
WESTERN EUROPE			
Austria	16903	21093	27187
Belgium	17309	24007	25596
Denmark	11327	15805	20170
Finland	8001	12525	16258
France	97654	131824	152258
Germany	76868	116679	120243
Greece	3455	4468	4793
Ireland	7083	8996	10052
Italy	46908	65561	67642
Netherlands	40565	51211	52755
Norway	8400	10631	11194
Portugal	8158	10648	11457
Spain	30551	42895	45247
Sweden	18098	26154	28799
Switzerland	24463	28260	34311
U.K.	430917	555907	651083
Others	1306	1633	3074
Total	847966	1128297	1282119
EASTERN EUROPE			
Czechoslovakia	3466	4114	4783
Poland	6336	8445	10983
C.I.S.	38526	61187	75242
Others	6924	8680	10437
Total	55252	82426	101445
AFRICA			
Egypt	3382	3781	4048
Kenya	16563	17538	19816
Mauritius	16308	19823	19760
Nigeria	5713	6659	10049
South Africa	23873	32148	39229
Tanzania	8515	9953	11193
Others	18999	25591	30706

Total 93353 115493 134801

WEST ASIA
Bahrain 4182 4414 4923
Israel 32157 39083 42866
Oman 12352 14927 14979
Saudi Arabia 9961 11929 12444
Turkey 5528 7008 7906
U.A.E. 21374 22668 24560
Yemen Arab Rep. 7717 8826 9423
Others 10325 13953 16720

Total 103596 122808 133821

SOUTH ASIA
Afghanistan 10079 12705 14025
Iran 17539 24733 28691
Maldives 18345 21099 33915
Nepal 42771 51534 77024
Pakistan 10364 67416 88609
Bangladesh 454611 477446 456371
Sri Lanka 109098 128711 136400
Bhutan 4082 7054 6934

Total 666889 790698 841969

SOUTH EAST ASIA
Indonesia 9078 11408 12640
Malaysia 70750 84390 96276
Myanmar 3609 4932 5652
Philippines 8091 10492 11422
Singapore 48368 60710 68666
Thailand 25754 33442 41978
Others 3276 3736 4774

Total 168926 209110 241408

EAST ASIA
China(Main) 21152 34100 44897
China(Taiwan) 12685 18179 18894
Japan 77996 96851 103082
Korea(South) 35584 47835 49895
Others 3089 4662 6799

Total 150506 201627 223567

AUTRALASIA
Australia 58730 81608 96258
New Zealand 13283 16762 20463
Others 1836 2574 3057

Total 73849 100944 119778

Others 10233 14471 21818
Stateless 15516 1434 13490
Grand Total 2726214 3457477 3918610